EPA Activity Types Used in AWQMS

"Activity Type"	Description	DWQ Notes
Field Msr/Obs	MEASUREMENTS involve something measured in its environmental setting usually using some type of equipment. OBSERVATIONS are made by people, usually without the use of equipment, and are frequently qualitative.	Field Measurement and observation – typically Hydrolab/YSI/InSitu data
Sample-Routine	A sample gathered using straightforward "grab" procedures for purposes of a general evaluation of the environment at the site	Lab Chemistry Data
Field Msr/Obs-Habitat Assessment	A field activity conducted to evaluate a habitat, according to an organization's pre-defined habitat assessment scheme.	
Field Msr/Obs-Portable Data Logger	Measurements made in the field by an automated data logging device, running unattended and producing a suite of data values at repeating intervals set by its owner/operator.	
Quality Control Field Calibration Check	The test is performed to calibrate the instrument for assuring the quality. Calibration checks are recommended at the beginning of the tests and every four hours.	
Quality Control Field Replicate Habitat Assessment	Many habitat parameters are measured or observed to precisely control the quality.	
Quality Control Field Replicate Msr/Obs	Multiple field measurements or observations are taken within each combination of time, location, and any other controlled variables.	
Quality Control Field Replicate Portable Data Logger	The portable device to note the observed data of multiple samples taken in the field.	
Quality Control Field Sample Equipment Rinsate Blank	A sample of analyte-free media that has been used to rinse the sampling equipment. It is collected after completion of decontamination and prior to sampling. This blank is useful in documenting adequate decontamination of sampling equipment.	
Quality Control Sample-Blind Duplicate	The duplicate samples are collected from same source and same time but submitted and analyzed as separate samples as independent samples.	
Quality Control Sample-Equipment Blank	If the equipments are used to analyze the samples, one analyte-free water blank must be processed and analyzed the same way as the samples to assure the accuracy of equipments.	
Quality Control Sample-Field Ambient Conditions Blank	The analyte free media is tested to assure the preciseness of ambient conditions. It helps in controlling the effects of environment on the sample.	
Quality Control Sample-Field Blank	Field Blanks are prepared by exposing the analyte-free matrices to the sampling environment at the sampling site. Usually each sampling team should collect one field blank a day per collection apparatus.	DWQ may use from 2011 forward for "Trip Blanks"

Quality Control Sample-Field Replicate	Multiple samples taken within each combination of time, location, and any other controlled variables. The purpose of collecting replicate samples is to obtain precision. For a large size field it is important to break field into homogeneous sub-areas and collect samples proportions to the size of each sub-area.	This is what DWQ calls "Duplicates"
Quality Control Sample-Field Spike	A known mass of target analyte added to a blank sample or subsample; used to determine recovery efficiency of other quality control purposes.	
Quality Control Sample-Field Surrogate Spike	A pure substance with properties that mimic the analyte of interest is called surrogate. Target Surrogate is	
Quality Control Sample-Inter-lab Split	Split samples are obtained by dividing one sample into two or more identical sub-samples, analyzed at the same laboratory. They are used to check on the reproducibility of the method or the laboratory performing the analyses.	
Quality Control Sample-Lab Blank		
Quality Control Sample-Lab Duplicate	One of two samples taken from the same population and carried through all steps of the sampling and analytical procedures in an identical manner. Duplicate samples are used to assess variance of the total method including sampling and analysis.	
Quality Control Sample-Lab Matrix Spike		"Surrogate"and recorded as percent recovery
Quality Control Sample-Lab Re-Analysis		
Quality Control Sample-Lab Spike		
Quality Control Sample-Lab Split		
Quality Control Sample-Measurement Precision Sample	A sample (i.e., test sample or control sample/standard) used either singly or in replicate, as appropriate, to monitor the precision of method.	
Quality Control Sample-Other	This category contains quality control measures of any other process to which a sample is subjected, and not included in this list.	
Quality Control Sample-Post-preservative Blank	The analyte-free media which has undergone same preserving process as the samples. This Blank is tested to check the quality of preservation process.	
Quality Control Sample-Pre-preservative Blank	The analyte-free media tested before undergoing the same preserving process as the samples. This Blank is tested to check the quality of preservation process.	
Quality Control Sample-Reagent Blank	Reagent Blank is analyte free water analyzed with samples, one per sample test. The reagent blank is analyzed to control the quality.	
Quality Control Sample-Reference Sample	A sample (i.e., test sample or control sample/standard) with known analyte concentration used either singly or in replicate, as appropriate, to monitor method performance characteristics.	

Quality Control Sample-Trip Blank	Trip blanks are test samples of analyte-free media taken from the laboratory to the sampling site and returned to the laboratory unopened. They are used to measure cross-contamination from the container and preservative during transport, field handling, and storage. Usually, at least one trip blank should be prepared for each sample type per trip.	This is what DWQ has historically used for "Trip Blanks"
Quality Control-Negative Control	The process to control the quality of measurement with absence of analyte or habitat is negative control.	
Sample-Composite With Parents	Describes a sample which is a composite of either continuous sampling events, or is a sample collected by a continuous process over different time period. Database record exists or can be derived as its parent.	
Sample-Composite Without Parents	Describes a sample which is a composite of either several discrete sampling events not described elsewhere, or is a sample collected by a continuous process over some time period. No database record exists as its parent.	
Sample-Depletion Replicate	Multiple samples with depleted analyte or habitat.	
Sample-Field Split	A sample created in the field from half of a mother or parent sample	
Sample-Field Subsample	A sample created in the field from a portion of a mother or parent sample	
Sample-Integrated Cross-Sectional Profile	A discrete/integrated sample, usually derived from a continuous record, representing cross-section of the stream.	
Sample-Integrated Flow Proportioned	A sample integrated over an interval or space within which changes in flow are used to alter the proportion of the sampled medium contributing to the integrated sample.	
Sample-Integrated Horizontal Profile	A sample integrated over an interval or space within which changes in flow are used to alter the proportion of the sampled medium contributing to the integrated sample.	
Sample-Integrated Time Series	A discrete/integrated sample, usually derived from a continuous record, representing some portion or segment of elapsed time within the overall activity duration or sample period.	
Sample-Integrated Vertical Profile	A discrete/integrated sample, usually derived from a continuous record, representing some portion or segment of a vertical track within the study area.	Used for Lake Chemistry Data
Sample-Negative Control	A controlled sample with absence of analyte.	
Sample-Other	This category contains a sample collected following a process which is not included in this list.	
Sample-Positive Control	A controlled sample with presence of analyte or habitate.	